

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 ORM-02 DHA-02 PA-01 PRS-01

USIA-06 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 AGR-05 EB-07

TRSE-00 AID-05 HEW-04 /064 W

-----070527Z 065460 /11

R 041530Z MAY 77

FM AMEMBASSY GABORONE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9869

INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMEMBASSY DARESSALAAM

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 GABORONE 1004

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SREF, BC, RH, SF, WA, AO, LT

SUBJECT: BOTSWANA REFUGEE REPORT

REF: A. STATE 39794; B. GABORONE 651

SUMMARY: BOTSWANA REFUGEE POPULATION FLUCTUATING BUT STEADILY GROWING. TOTAL AS OF APRIL 30 WAS 3147. LARGEST NUMBER IS RHODESIANS. ZAPU ELEMENTS HAVING FAIRLY RAPID TURNOVER BUT UANC "STUCK" IN BOTSWANA. ABOUT 20 SOUTH AFRICANS PER WEEK ARRIVING. UNHCR ATTEMPTING TO PLACE ANGOLANS IN OTHER COUNTRIES. VIRTUALLY ALL NAMIBIANS ARE SWANU WHO CANNOT GO ON TO THIRD COUNTRIES. NO CHANGES AMONG BASOTHO. END SUMMARY.

1. 3147 REFUGEES IN BOTSWANA AS OF APRIL 30 DIVIDED AS FOLLOWS: 2307 RHODESIANS, 496 SOUTH AFRICANS, 93 ANGOLANS, 71 NAMIBIANS, 175 BASOTHO, 3 MALAWIANS (JEHOVAH'S WIT-
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NESES), 1 MOZAMBICAN (FREIMO) AND 1 UGANDAN. THIS NUMBER FLUCTUATES GREATLY, HOWEVER, PARTICULARLY AMONG THE RHODESIANS. ZAPU IS MOVING RECRUITS TO ZAMBIA AT A HIGH RATE. THESE ARE BEING REPLACED EVEN MORE RAPIDLY. ZAPU APPARENTLY HAS PLENTIFUL FUNDS FOR TRANSPORT AND IS EXPERIENCING DIFFICULTY ONLY IN FINDING ENOUGH PLANES AND PILOTS. BOTSWANA SPECIAL BRANCH THINKS THAT THE

SOVIETS ARE SUPPLYING THE MONEY. THE NUMBER OF MUZOREWA FOLLOWERS STRANDED IN BOTSWANA CONTINUES TO GROW AND IS ESTIMATED BY SPECIAL BRANCH TO BE AT LEAST 600. THE GOB CONTINUES TO BE CONCERNED THAT BOTSWANA HAS BECOME A "CUL-DE-SAC" FOR THESE UANC RECRUITS. THERE ARE NO MAJOR CHANGES IN THE COMPOSITION OF THE OTHER REFUGEE GROUPS HERE. (NOTE: THIS REPORT IS KEYED TO QUESTIONS POSED REF A. IN CATEGORIES WHERE THERE IS NO CHANGE FROM REF B, THIS IS SO NOTED.)

2. RHODESIANS: 2307

A. DISTRIBUTION:

894 - FRANCISTOWN

1198 - SELEBI-PIKWE

198 - GABORONE

2 - SEROWE

4 - MOLEPOLOLE

8 - LOBATSI

3 - KANYE

B. COMPOSITION: NO CHANGE FROM REF B.

C. NEEDS:

(1) FOOD: UNHCR HAS RECEIVED AUTHORIZATION FROM GENEVA TO RAISE THE MONTHLY ALLOWANCE EFFECTIVE JUNE 1 FROM P20 TO P30 (US \$36) PER MONTH FOR RHODESIANS AND OTHER REFUGEES ON BOTSWANA COUNCIL FOR REFUGEES' ROLES. UNHCR HOPES THAT INCREASE WILL ALLOW REFUGEES TO HAVE BETTER DIET AND SHELTER. WORLD FOOD PROGRAM AND OXFAM CONTINUE TO FEED MOST RHODESIAN REFUGEES IN BOTSWANA. GOB IS CONFIDENTIAL

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MAKING UP SOME SHORTFALL FROM ITS OWN RESOURCES.

(2) SHELTER: REFUGEES IN FRANCISTOWN VIRTUALLY ALL LIVING AT TRANSIT CAMP WHICH IS DESIGNED FOR ONE-THIRD THE NUMBER. UNHCR OFFICIAL DESCRIBES SITUATION AS "APPALLING", BUT IMPROVEMENTS TO CAMP NOW UNDER WAY. ALL RHODESIANS IN SELEBI-PIKWE LIVING IN AND AROUND THE PRISON. SELEBI-PIKWE CAMP DESIGNED FOR 500 TO BE COMPLETED IN ABOUT TWO MONTHS. UNHCR BELIEVES CAMP COULD BE EXPANDED TO HOUSE 1000 PERSONS IF NECESSARY.

(3) EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS: NO CHANGE FROM REF B. WE CONTINUE TO RECEIVE MANY LETTERS FROM RHODESIANS ASKING FOR PLACEMENT AND/OR SCHOLARSHIP IN U.S. WE ARE AWAITING INFORMATION ON UNDERGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIPS MENTIONED STATE 20010.

D. SUPPORT ACTIVITIES: NO CHANGE EXCEPT AS NOTED ABOVE.

3. SOUTH AFRICANS: 496

A. DISTRIBUTION:

353 - GABORONE
49- FRANCISTOWN
5 - MAHALAPYE
6 - 6 - SEROWE
1 - PALAPYE
2 - SELEBI-PIKWE
2 - TULI BLOCK
32 - MOCHUDI
3 - RAMOTSWA
19- MOLEPOLOLE
21 - LOBATSE
3 - KANYE

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R 041530Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY GABORONE
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INFO AMCONSUL CAPETOWN
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AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 GABORONE 1004

B. COMPOSITION: NO CHANGE FROM REF B.

C. NEEDS:

(1) FOOD NO CHANGE.
(2) SHELTER: NO CHANGE
(3) EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS: 86 SOUTH AFRICAN
AND RHODESIAN SECONDARY STUDENTS WERE TRANSPORTED TO
NIGERIA BY UNHCR IN MARCH. 23 STUDENTS HAVE BEEN
STRANDED IN LUSAKA BUT MOST WILL NOW BE ALLOWED
TO PROCEED TO LAGOS. NIGERIAN GOVERNMENT MAY BE
WILLING TO TAKE UP TO 40 MORE. BURSARIES FOR MOST

OF THE ABOVE TO BE FUNDED BY IUEF. UNHCR CONTIN-
UES TO SEARCH FOR OTHER AFRICAN COUNTRIES WILLING
TO ACCEPT REFUGEE STUDENTS. COUNTRIES BEING CON-
TACTED INCLUDE GHANA, LIBERIA AND ZAMBIA. DESPITE
THESE EFFORTS, HOWEVER, THE REMAINING SECONDARY
SCHOOL-LEVEL REFUGEES FACE A SERIOUS SHORTAGE OF
PLACES. AS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED, THE GOB HAS
AGREED TO ACCEPT A NUMBER OF THEM INTO THE BOTS-
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WANA SCHOOL SYSTEM IF DONORS FUND THE TWO REQUIRED
SCHOOLS. THE EMBASSY/AID DISCUSSED WITH GOB THE
FINANCING OF THESE TWO SCHOOLS PLUS BURSARIES,
SALARIES AND OTHER RECURRENT COSTS (GABORONE 908).
WE ARE AWAITING CONCRETE GOB PROPOSALS.

D. SUPPORT ACTIVITIES: NO CHANGE EXCEPT AS NOTED
ABOVE.

4. ANGOLANS: 93

A. DISTRIBUTION:

19 - GABORONE

54 - MAUN

20- ETSHA

B. COMPOSITION: ONE MPLA, REMAINDER FNLA.

C. NEEDS:

(1) FOOD: NO CHANGE FROM REF B.

(2) SHELTER: ANGOLANS IN MAUN HOUSED IN MAUN
PRISON. THOSE REMAINING AT ETSHA IN TENTS OR RON-
DAVELS. IN GABORONE, TWO FAMILIES PLUS SEVERAL
SINGLE PERSONS SHARE A RENTED DWELLING.

(3) EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS: NO CHANGE FROM
REF B.

D. SUPPORT ACTIVITIES: TWO FAMILIES (12 PERSONS)
DEPARTED FOR PORTUGAL IN LATE APRIL. THIS ARRANGEMENT
WAS WORKED OUT BETWEEN THE ANGLICAN CHURCH IN BOTSWANA
AND PORTUGUESE DIPLOMATIC AUTHORITIES IN SOUTH AFRICA.
AT LEAST ONE FAMILY HAS BEEN GRANTED AUTHORITY TO RE-
SETTLE IN ZAIRE BUT IS HESITANT BECAUSE OF POLITICAL/
MILITARY SITUATION THERE. UNHCR HAS SUBMITTED VIA
UNHCR KINSHASA A LIST OF 30 ANGOLANS WHO WISH TO GO TO
ZAIRE. UNHCR ALSO ATTEMPTING TO FIND OTHER AFRICAN
COUNTRIES WILLING TO ACCEPT ANGOLANS. ONE INDIVIDUAL
ATTEMPTING ON HIS OWN TO GET TO FRANCE BUT FRENCH
EMBASSY IN LUSAKA HAS REFUSED RENEWAL OF EXPIRED REFUGEE
TRAVEL DOCUMENTS ORIGINALLY ISSUED TO HIM IN PARIS.

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5. NAMIBIANS: 71

A. DISTRIBUTION:

68 - FRANCISTOWN

3 - GABORONE

B. COMPOSITION: 66 SWANU, 5 SWAPO; NO OTHER

CHANGE FROM REF B.

C. NEEDS: NO CHANGE.

D. SUPPORT ACTIVITIES: SWANU REPS TOLD UNHCR

THAT KENYA HAS AGREED TO TAKE THEIR ENTIRE GROUP FOR
FURTHER EDUCATION IF SCHOLARSHIPS COULD BE FOUND. REPS
SUBSEQUENTLY CLAIMED THAT SCHOLARSHIPS HAD BEEN PROMISED
BY COMMONWEALTH SECRETARIAT AND OTHERS. UNHCR SKEPTICAL
AND IS CONTACTING SECRETARIAT TO VERIFY.

6. BASOTHO: 175

A. DISTRIBUTION:

152 - GABORONE

9- LOBATSE

2 - MOCHUDI

2 - RAMOTSWA

5 - MOLEPOLOLE

1 - SEROWE

3 - FRANCISTOWN

1 - SELEBI-PIKWE

B. COMPOSITION: NO CHANGE FROM REF B.

C. NEEDS: NO CHANGE.

D. SUPPORT ACTIVITIES: NO CHANGE.

ALBERTI

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REFUGEES, REPORTS, REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 04-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
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SAS ID: 2647801
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BOTSWANA REFUGEE REPORT
TAGS: SREF, BC, RH, SF, WA, AO, LT
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/7086169b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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